

Amdt. dated **December 21, 2007**Reply to Office Action of **February 12, 2007****REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 17, 19-25, 27-29, 31-39 and 43-48 are pending in the application. By this Amendment, claims 26 and 30 are canceled, and claims 17, 27, 28, 31, 32, 38 and 48 are amended. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections in view of the forgoing amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

The February 12 Office Action indicated that claims 29-31 and 34-36 contained allowable subject matter. By this Amendment, claim 17 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 30, and intervening claim 26. Claims 26 and 30 are then canceled. Dependent claims 27, 28, 31 and 32 are amended to correct their dependency.

In addition, independent claim 38 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 35. Independent claim 48 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 29.

In view of the fact that all independent claims have been amended to incorporate allowable subject matter, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Serial No. **10/719,013**

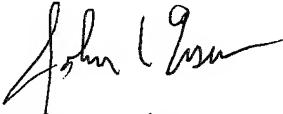
Docket No. **MDR-0004**

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To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
KED & ASSOCIATES, LLP



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Date: December 21, 2007

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